

THE

# QUILL

CIRCULATION THIS ISSUE, OVER 24,000

A MAGAZINE FOR JOURNALISTS



October, 1954

A NEWS SOURCE QUESTIONS THE NEWS

Washington reporters listen to Sen. McCarthy's criticism of newspaper versions of his actions during the Senate inquiry into his conduct.

50 Cents

**Professor Edmund P. Learned**

Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration—writes on

# The Truth About Gasoline Prices

**I**n these days of high prices it seems as if *everything* we buy costs at least twice as much as it used to. That's why it's encouraging to tell you about a commodity which, outside of increased taxes, actually costs little more than it did in 1925. I'm talking about today's gasoline.

It is very important to note that the consumer owes this favorable price situation to one basic factor—the healthy struggle for competitive advantage among all U. S. oil companies and gasoline dealers.

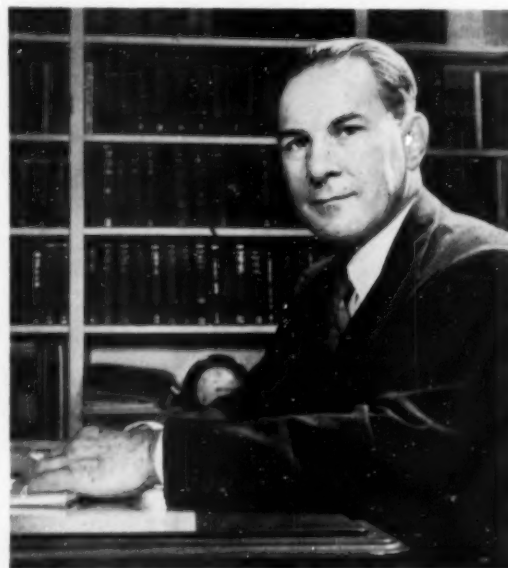
I can demonstrate how this competition works by a study made of a typical midwestern oil company. This company was considered a price leader because of its dominant market position. Yet in Ohio alone its products were in active competition with the brands of 7 large national companies, 5 smaller but well established regional companies and the private brands of jobbers and large retailers.

The company's retail prices were the result of keen local competition. Except for differences in customer services or unusual locations, prices out of line with competition caused loss of trade. From the social point of view, retail prices in Ohio were sound. Consumers had ample opportunity to choose between varying elements of price, service and quality. Their choice determined the volume of business for the dealer and the supplying company. New or old firms were free to try any combination of appeals to attract new business. Even the biggest marketer had to meet competitive prices. And price leadership—in the sense of ability to set prices at will—was impossible. If, as rarely happened, a price was established that was not justified by economic forces, some competitor always brought it down.

Consider the effect of this competition since gasoline taxes were first introduced. The first state gasoline tax was enacted in 1919. Last year, in 50 representative American cities, federal, state, and local gasoline taxes amounted to 7½ cents that had to

be included in the price paid by consumers. Nevertheless, management ingenuity contrived to keep the actual advance in price to consumers down to 3½ cents. This is an outstanding record in view of the general increases in wages and higher costs of crude oil.

This same competitive force among oil companies has resulted in the 50% gasoline improvement since 1925. The research and engineering efforts of the oil companies supported by the improved designs of automobile engines, have produced gasoline so powerful that today 2 gallons do the work that 3 used to do in 1925.



**Edmund P. Learned**, professor of Business Administration at the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration is the author of a study on the pricing of gasoline by a midwestern oil company. This study, considered to be a classic on the gasoline price question, was published in the *Harvard Business Review* and is the basis for this article.

*This is one of a series of reports by outstanding Americans who were invited to examine the job being done by the U. S. oil industry.*

*This page is presented for your information by The American Petroleum Institute, 50 West 50th Street, New York 20, N. Y.*

**THE QUILL** for October, 1954

# Bylines in This Issue

**"T**RIAL by newspaper" has worried lawyers in recent years and months and no honest newspaperman will attempt to deny that the First Amendment is sometimes in conflict with the Sixth. But such proposals as the limitation of pre-trial reporting carry far worse dangers to the public interest than the remedy they offer.

In recent decades federal and state supreme courts have lifted most of the threat of contempt that once accompanied editorial comment on pending decisions. We still have imperfect lower courts, subject to negligence and political pressure that can more than justify the newspaper's role as a public conscience.

This is the background of **A. T. Burch's** wise and witty article, "Trial by Newspaper Is Often Exercise of a Public Duty to Yell 'Stop Thief!'" (page 7). As a metropolitan editor and editorial writer of long experience and as the son of a former chief justice of Kansas, he approaches this problem with considerably more background than most spokesmen for either side.

The article is adapted from a speech he gave before the chief justices of all the states preceding the American Bar Association's recent convention in Chicago. "A. T." is associate editor of the *Chicago Daily News* and boss of its editorial page. He came to the *Daily News* in 1945 from the *Cleveland Press* where he had been city hall reporter, chief editorial writer, executive and associate editor.

A Kansan, he was graduated from Washburn College in 1917 and took his master's degree there after serving overseas as a lieutenant of artillery in World War I. He reported for the *Topeka Daily Capital* and the *New York Tribune* and wrote editorials for the *Topeka State Journal* before going to Cleveland.

**T**HERE are lessons in history, as in other fields, for the newspaperman struggling to interpret today's events, and help guide public opinion on them. This is so obvious that it is often overlooked on the theory that contemporary problems are unique.

**Harold H. Smith**, author of "A Newspaperman Suggests a Closer Look at History" (page 10), relearned it the hard way by teaching school between newspapers.

A 1927 graduate of the University

of Kansas, Harold edited papers at Julesburg and Fort Morgan, Colo., and Ogallala, Kans. and did publicity in Denver for the War Production Board. He went to Idaho in 1946 where he acquired and later sold the *Blackfoot Daily Bulletin*.

He plans to return to newspaper work after teaching American history in the Blackfoot schools. He is a former president of the Colorado Press Association and contributor to *THE QUILL*.

## CONVENTION NUMBER—

Among the bylines in *THE QUILL* next month, in advance of Sigma Delta Chi's annual convention, will be Hodding Carter, publisher of the *Greenville (Miss.) Delta Democrat-Times* and nationally noted Southern spokesman; Louis Seltzer, editor of the *Cleveland Press*, and J. R. Wiggins, managing editor of the *Washington Post and Times Herald*.

J. A. Meckstroth, editor of the *Ohio State Journal*, will present a profile of Columbus, Ohio, the convention city. James E. Pollard, director of the Ohio State University school of journalism, will survey Ohio journalism.

**W**HEN Edward Hymoff took a master's degree in government at Columbia University in 1950, he wrote a thesis on "The Weakness of U. S. International Broadcasting and Radio Propaganda." It was, he admits, strictly an "ivory tower" criticism of the American battle for men's minds through its information and other services.

He has spent most of the time since in the Far East, as a Korean war correspondent, in Thailand, Indochina, the Philippines, Formosa and Japan. This first-hand experience, he writes, verified his thesis. "Why Can't This Nation of Salesmen Sell Itself to the Millions of Asia?" (page 12) is a tougher, first-hand version of what he considers the faults of our propaganda campaign.

Now a news editor of NBC in New York—he came home as a news writer for the network earlier this year—Ed has been Korean war correspondent for a string of New England daily newspapers, *International News Service* reporter and Korean bureau chief and *Newsweek* stringer.

He was accredited to Korea in 1951

as correspondent for fifteen papers, which included the *Medford (Mass.) Daily Mercury*, the *Providence (R. I.) Journal*, the *Hartford (Conn.) Courant* and the *Gannett Newspapers of Maine*.

In June, 1952, Ed joined *INS* and was made the Korean bureau chief less than a year later. Before returning to New York, he was on assignment twice in Southeast Asia. Now 30, Ed did his undergraduate work at Boston University, where he was graduated in journalism in 1949.

**W**HEN this month's cover picture was taken, the Wisconsin senator was citing a Washington banner line as an example of erroneous reporting of his clash with a senatorial committee over the reported statement of Colorado's Johnson, months earlier, that Democratic Senate leaders "loathed" McCarthy.

McCarthy said he had merely asked verification of Johnson's statement as published in the *Denver Post* last March and was not seeking to bar him from the committee. Many newspapers interpreted this as an attempt to challenge the Colorado Democrat's position on the committee. The *Washington Evening Star*, exhibited by McCarthy in the picture, announced that it was satisfied its headline did not misrepresent his position.

McCarthy's basic complaint, during the interview, was that the barring of television cameras from the hearing on censure charges prevented a check on "false reporting" by newspapers.

**A**LTHOUGH he writes the "Mr. Fixit" column for the *Minneapolis Tribune*, **Ben Kern**, author of "Women Can Ask the Most Interesting Questions" (page 11), reports that he really doesn't try to fix anything. "I just try to get the facts like on 'Dragnet,'" he says.

Autobiographically, he identifies himself as an in-between—too young to be a member of the lost generation and too old to do the Mambo. Here's his version of the detours en route to his present status:

"Back in the lousy depression after a journalism course at the University of Minnesota, I used to sit and contemplate the distance to 'The Sun Also Rises' from the daily obituaries which I was writing. Naturally, I got sacked, and took up bus driving. Later, in World War II, I was put in charge of the *Camp Haan, Calif.*, weekly newspaper and elevated to the rank of private first class. This revived my interest in journalism.

"Came back to Minneapolis as a





## From where I sit by Joe Marsh

### "Blind Man's" Bluff

You know how Handy Turner down at the hardware store goes in for weird advertising stunts. Well, when it came to plugging his new Venetian blind department, his enthusiasm nearly landed him in trouble.

*Handy painted a warning on the tailboard of his truck: "Caution—blind man driving."*

"Had driven about a mile," Handy says, "when a state trooper stopped me and told me that sign might cause trouble. Guess he was right. From now on I'll advertise in the *Clarion*."

*From where I sit, I agree—the highway is no place for jokes. We all ought to be considerate of the other fellow when we're driving. In fact, let's respect our neighbor's right of way always. Then, when we have differences of opinion—say about the best route to Centerville, or whether beer or buttermilk is better with lunch—there will be less chance of anybody developing any "blind" spots.*

*Joe Marsh*

Advertisement

general assignment reporter interviewing visiting dignitaries like Barbara Peyton and gradually became 'Fixit.' "

"I have a lovely wife and a couple of kids who watch 'Foreign Intrigue.' They think I'm a hell of a journalist because I don't own a trench coat and don't get sent to Paris. Maybe they're right."

## From Quill Readers

Editor, *The Quill*:

The September issue of *QUILL* carried a letter from Willet Weeks of the New York *Herald Tribune* Syndicate in which he makes some generous comments on my article in your July issue. Mr. Weeks objects to one point in my argument, however, on what I believe is a basis of misunderstanding.

He notes my condemnation of some publishers who "have sold their editorial birthright for a mess of columnists," feeling that I am referring to publishers who use any syndicated columnists at all on their editorial pages. This was certainly not my intention. In the Hogate Lecture at De Pauw, from which the article you published was adapted, I believe my meaning was a little plainer. The passage read this way:

"There are some publishers who have gone all the way and killed off their tired old editorial pages. Some publishers have sold their birthright for a mess of columnists."

I was speaking of the publisher who uses syndicated columns as a complete substitute for editorial comment of his own, not of the publisher who uses good syndicated material to supplement original matter.

My lengthy speech text had to be cut for space, and a qualifying sentence thus dropped out in *THE QUILL*. I would be most inconsistent if I objected to the use of high quality syndicate material on an editorial page, if kept in proper balance with the home-grown offerings.

My own editorial page in the *Courier-Journal* runs the Alsops and David Lawrence; the *Louisville Times* uses Lippmann and Childs on the editorial page. Both papers run other syndicated columns elsewhere as well.

Barry Bingham,  
President, *Courier-Journal*  
and *Louisville Times*

# THE QUILL

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## Webster Does Right by Us

**N**EARLY three years ago I devoted this space to a little tongue-in-cheek defense of "the fair name of journalism." I commented that newspapermen spend their lives quarreling with the dictionary but practically never win. At last, newspaperman had bitten lexicographer, with a prospect of success.

Several weeks ago I was called by a Chicago correspondent for *Newsweek*. He wanted to know if I knew anything about Sigma Delta Chi's campaign for a better definition, in Webster's New International Dictionary, of *journalistic*. I did indeed.

Did I know a new edition was out with a changed definition? I did, thanks to Vic Bluedorn, executive secretary of the professional journalistic fraternity who had first heard about the revision and verified it.

The winning campaign had started at the fraternity's Detroit convention in November, 1951. John T. Bills of the Miami *Herald*, then managing editor of *THE QUILL*, came charging up from Florida with a resolution about Mr. Webster. John is a transplanted Texan who has never looked up *obstacle* in the dictionary. Not that he met any; his resolution went through a committee, of which I was a member, and through the convention without a whisper of dissent.

**T**HEN the fun started. The retired editor of the dictionary complained mildly that lexicographers "couldn't help what people call journalists." The *Editor & Publisher* appealed to the New International's publisher and a reconsideration of the definition was promised.

The major flaw of the old definition was that a transitional "hence" in effect left "characteristic of journalism or journalists" with the sole meaning of "characterized by evidences of haste, superficiality of thought, inaccuracies of detail, colloquialisms, and sensationalism. . . ."

I said I hoped to live to see a new edition and forgot about it. I blithely overlooked the fact that the campaign, as far as Sigma Delta Chi was concerned, actually started fifteen years earlier, at the Dallas convention in 1936. It is not uncharacteristic of journalists, I must confess, to herald an old fight as brand new.

The new definition of *journalistic* is:

1. *Of or pertaining to or characteristic of journalism or journalists.*

2. *Specif., as to style of expressions, appropriate to the immediate present and phrased to stimulate and satisfy the interest and curiosity of a wide reading public—often in distinction from literary (sense 3).*

This should mollify journalists although, like all defini-

tions, it will not completely satisfy everybody. The first section of the definition merely holds a mirror to the dictionary reader's own views.

If he considers journalism a dedicated profession, a good business or a fascinating craft (or all three) "of or pertaining to or characteristic of" will give back such an image of himself and his trade. The press hater will be equally happy with what he sees reflected.

The second part of the definition is obviously a careful effort to evaluate that which distinguishes journalistic copy, in topic and approach as well as writing style, from other forms of publication or spoken word. As such I consider it a fair definition within the limited space permitted any one term in a dictionary.

**W**E do express ourselves in terms "appropriate to the immediate present." That does not prevent us from reporting the contents of a tomb 5,000 years old or predicting how an election will come out months in the future. Our frame of reference is almost always today, or this week. But there is no event or object or person, past or future, that cannot be put in this perspective.

We also phrase our copy to "stimulate and satisfy the interest and curiosity of a wide reading public." That is our proper function. It becomes more our function each year as the very means of communication, from printing to broadcasting, multiply and improve technologically.

This wide audience does not mean that we cannot tell it well. On the contrary, it can be argued that one must write with even more skill to convey fact and opinion to millions than to the highly literate few whose acquaintance with the intricacies of language is greater.

If this assumption is conceded, a journalist might question "sense 3" of the new definition, "often in distinction from literary," even though it is qualified. I am no longer sure what constitutes a "literary" style in distinction from any other. Consider the vast difference in the way our two best known novelists, William Faulkner and Ernest Hemingway, tell a story.

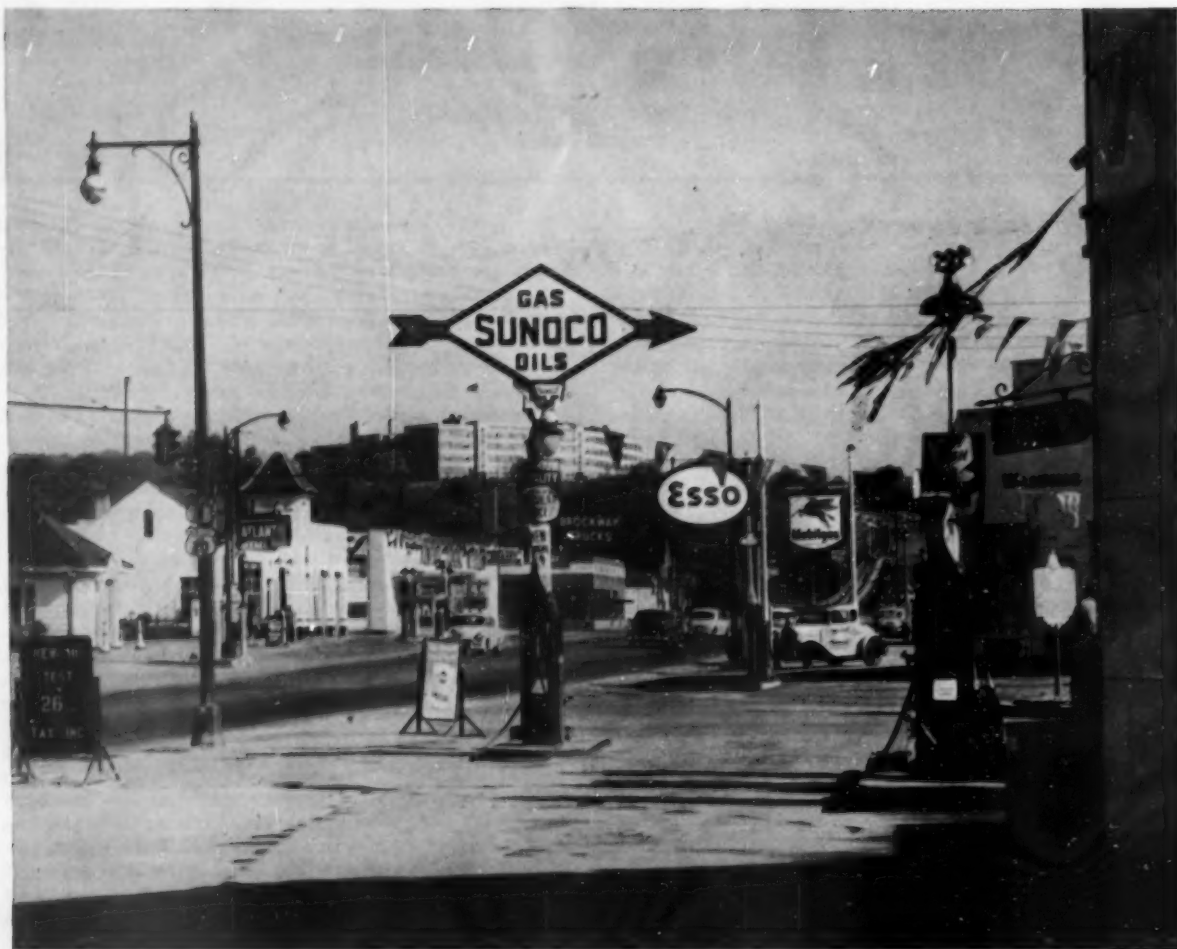
I think that any real difference between literature and journalism is a matter of purpose and perspective rather than of vocabulary and sentence structure. I hope the lexicographers will not think journalists are ungrateful when I suggest that it is sloppy craftsmanship even to consult the dictionary in order to use words that the writer himself does not understand too well.

Not that I do not cherish the Webster's New International that sits on its stand a few feet from my typewriter. For one thing, I will never be quite sure whether "e" follows "i" or vice versa in this wonderful English language of ours.

CARL R. KESLER

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## Suppose Gasoline Refiners and Retailers Couldn't Adjust Prices to Meet Market Conditions

Because of intense competition at all levels in the oil industry—from refining through retailing—American motorists get better service from their local gas stations and derive more efficiency from the gasoline they use than any other motorists in the world.

Individual petroleum companies and individual gasoline retailers are free to adjust prices to meet seasonal fluctuations in demand for their product—or to counter local or regional competitive situations.

But the railroads—with petroleum purchases totaling about \$400 million a year, making them one of the oil industry's biggest customers—do not have the same

freedom. Archaic regulations, most of them established when the railroads were practically a monopoly, are ill-adapted to today's highly competitive situation in the transportation industry.

These regulations deprive the railroads of the price flexibility essential to meet today's market conditions and competitive situations.

For example, last year one group of railroads was refused the right to lower rates on canned goods to meet the competitive highway situation—on grounds that reduced rates would not add to revenues. At about the same time, another group of railroads was forbidden to raise rates on

fresh vegetables on the grounds that, even though they were losing money hauling them, they were making a net profit from their overall business.

The confusion and losses resulting from such regulation have proved harmful to the railroads operating in the highly populated, industrialized East.

These roads believe they could operate more soundly—and serve industry and the public better—if the regulations affecting them were modernized and brought into line with conditions as they exist today in the transportation industry... Eastern Railroad Presidents Conference, 143 Liberty Street, New York 6, N. Y.



*Journalists do not want the right of a free press to curtail that of a fair trial. But indifference or political corruption can be the real foe of justice. An editor points out that*

## 'Trial by Newspaper' Is Often Exercise Of a Public Duty to Yell 'Stop Thief!'

By A. T. BURCH

**A** NEWSPAPERMAN could not discuss the press and the administration of justice without expressing his debt, as a journalist, to the state courts. They have had a major part in placing the freedom of the press on the firm foundation it now occupies.

This freedom helps all newspapers to stay in business and some of them to make money. But it has not been honored by the courts on that account. The right of the newspaper is no different from that of any other organization or individual to write, speak, print, pound a typewriter, or crank a mimeograph machine.

The courts have upheld it, not primarily for the benefit of the writers, printers and speakers, but for the good of the whole people. They have wanted the people to have access to every kind of information and to choose freely among the doctrines circulating in our times.

Until 1925 the state courts had by far the largest share of responsibility for maintaining these liberties under the constitutions and laws of the states, among which there was some variation. In that year the United States Supreme Court asserted its jurisdiction over restraints on public expression imposed by state law. It decided that the 14th Amendment of the federal Constitution required it to apply the standards of the First Amendment to state cases restraining the press.

Since then, the United States Supreme Court has relieved a few newspapermen from penalties that state courts had inflicted on the home grounds. California, Texas, and Florida courts, for instance, have been denied the privilege of punishing editors for contempt in a series of cases extremely interesting to us potential defendants.

Today it is rather difficult for a newspaper editor to get himself jailed for contempt of court by mere publication. This state of affairs is generally convenient, though it has de-

prived editorial writers of some opportunities for pay raises, promotion, and national publicity. These used to be the customary rewards for a contempt citation. Now a newspaper may have to defy a judge's order not to take a picture, or forge a divorce decree to win celebrity by contempt.

It was in 1941 that the Supreme Court of the United States really deflated contempt by publication in deciding two cases with one opinion. Both arose in California. One involved Harry Bridges, the much lit-

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**This article is based on an address given before the Conference of Chief Justices preceding the American Bar Association's recent convention in Chicago. The audience included the chief justices of all the states.**

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igated left-wing labor leader. The other involved a newspaper, the *Los Angeles Times*. There was a trace of labor trouble in that one, too.

The *Times* had written an editorial demanding that a judge impose a severe sentence on two union truck drivers who had just been convicted of assaulting a non-union truck driver.

In the other case, Harry Bridges' union had lost a court decision in a fight with an A. F. of L. union over bargaining jurisdiction. With a motion for a new trial pending, he threatened to call a longshoremen's strike and tie up every Pacific Coast port if the court's original order was enforced. Bridges made this threat in a telegram addressed to the secretary of labor. The court held this communication privileged. But he made the telegram available to the press, which was not privileged. Though verdicts had been reached in both cases, they had not been completely wound up in all respects.

In both cases, five members of the Supreme Court held there was no clear and present danger that the

course of impartial justice would be swerved by these declarations. Four members held the contrary. Justice Black wrote the majority opinion; Justice Frankfurter the minority.

Frankfurter took the view that Bridges had explicitly threatened the court in an effort to get it to change its verdict. He found an implied threat in the language of the *Los Angeles Times* editorial. It was captioned, "Probation for Gorillas?," and said in part:

"Judge A. A. Scott will make a serious mistake if he grants probation to Matthew Shannon and Kennan Holmes. This community needs the example of their assignment to the Jute mill." The "jute mill" meant the state penitentiary.

If I might be permitted to testify as an expert on the psychology of editorial writers, I would say that a threat was not necessarily intended in the *Times'* strong expression of opinion, even though, as Frankfurter noted, Judge Scott had to seek reelection next year.

The editorial page is a running comment on public affairs. A newspaper often supports on his total record a public official whom it may have criticized on some occasions. An implied threat to criticize would not necessarily be a threat to defeat.

**T**HE issues in the case involve the psychology of judges as well as editorial writers. Black and Frankfurter both might be presumed to be experts on this; but as experts often do, they differed.

Frankfurter took the low view that judges are human, particularly if they are elective, and they might be swayed from their duty by raucous coaching from the sidelines.

Black, however, regarded it as an insult to the bench to assume that judges would be influenced by the yapping either of the *Los Angeles Times* or of Harry Bridges. It would, he declared, "impute to judges a lack of firmness, wisdom or honor—which

we cannot accept as a major premise."

In 1947 Justice Douglas gave a picturesque expression to this doctrine in a Texas case, when he said: "Judges are supposed to be men of fortitude able to thrive in a hardy climate."

In this line of decisions it may seem that judicial virtues absolve journalistic vices. Under the Black-Douglas doctrine, a judge who cracks down on a threatening or smart-alec editor stands in danger of impugning his own character.

If judges miss the fun of throwing editors in jail, they can at least console themselves by the high court's compliment to the unassailability of their honor and the thickness of their hides.

**I**T is a credit to the good sense and self-restraint of the press generally that it has not pushed its practice to the full limit of its apparent privilege under the rule of *Bridges v. California*.

It is certainly not customary for newspapers to tell judges what sentences they ought to impose on convicted criminals. Though they might not be punished for it, they would ordinarily consider it improper. I have never seen a newspaper couple advice of that kind with the warning—"or else"—as *Bridges* did.

There are few editors indeed who wish to usurp the functions of the courts, or dictate to them. The prevailing practice is certainly to withhold editorial comment on judicial actions until after the event.

Newspapers respect the Constitution, and they know that a fair and impartial trial as well as a free press is guaranteed by the Bill of Rights.

Even if a newspaper imposes on itself a strict rule against commenting before and during the first trial of a case, how long after the verdict may the case be said to be pending? It is surely not reasonable to ask that comment be withheld on a matter of intense public interest until every last possible step has been taken to get the judgment appealed or modified.

In the *Los Angeles Times* case, Justice Black said: "An endless series of moratoria on public discussion, even if each were very short, could hardly be dismissed as an insignificant abridgement of freedom of expression. And to assume that each would be short is to overlook the fact that 'pendency' of a case is frequently a matter of months or even years rather than days or weeks."

Not only in the case of *Bridges v. California*, but in others, Justice Frankfurter has been the chief advocate on the United States supreme

bench of firmer restrictions on the press. But before Frankfurter went on the bench he had not always refrained from comment on a case not finally disposed of. This was pointed out by Elisha Hanson, counsel of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, in a law journal. Frankfurter first became widely known to the general public through his denunciations of the trial court's judgment in the *Sacco-Vanzetti* case. After he published his attack on the verdict, ten steps were taken calling for further judicial or executive determination before the case was finally disposed of.

In his dissenting opinions in freedom of the press cases, Frankfurter has repeatedly castigated "trial by newspaper." This has been the subject of a good many articles in the law journals. It was recently debated before the New York State Bar Association, after having been broached by the Association of the Bar of New York City. The object of this agitation is not merely to restrict newspaper comment before or during a trial, but the reporting of certain kinds of facts, as well.

After full debate, the New York state bar refused to support a gag law, and contented itself with a warning to lawyers to restrain their own statements to the press before and during trials. The newspapers were magnificently represented in this debate by Alexander F. Jones, executive editor of the *Syracuse Post Standard*.

**M**ARYLAND, so far as I know, is the only one of the United States ever to experiment with pre-trial reporting. A Baltimore court adopted a rule forbidding publication of a confession before the confession was presented in open court. It also forbade publication of the prior criminal record of an accused man.

This rule was declared invalid by the Maryland Court of Appeals in 1949, after a lower court citation of a Baltimore radio station for violating it in a rape-murder case. The station broadcast that the accused man had confessed to the crime.

It listed his long criminal record. It said he went to the scene of the crime, re-enacted the killing, and dug up the knife with which he had killed his victim.

The broadcast was not challenged on the ground that it was false, but on the ground that it was prejudicial to a fair trial. The Supreme Court of the United States was asked to review the case, but refused to do so.

Justice Frankfurter noted that his

court had expressed no opinion on the validity of the Baltimore rule. He then reviewed a long list of English cases, illustrating the strict rules prevailing in that country on pre-trial reporting as well as comment.

There too it is illegal to report a confession before trial, or the criminal record of an accused man. But the British restraints go far beyond that. Virtually nothing may be published between the arrest of a suspect and his trial except the fact of his arrest, a plain statement of the charge against him, and such bald data as the time set for hearing.

The English courts have punished newspapers for assigning their own men to investigate a case and report the results of their investigation. The penalties imposed for printing prejudicial facts or comments have ranged from a few pounds to thousands of pounds. Publishers and editors have been sentenced to jail for terms of several months.

In theory, at least, the English restraints are not intended solely to protect the defendant, but the orderly process of justice. This was illustrated in the case of a man arrested when he was found carrying a pistol close to the person of the present Duke of Windsor just before that dignitary became king.

One editor was fined because his paper referred to the man as an assassin. Another was fined because his paper reported that the man seemed to be a harmless crank. Both statements were regarded as prejudicial to a fair trial.

Now if all judges really are the kind of men, full of fortitude, wisdom, and honor, that they are presumed to be by Justices Black and Douglas, they surely would not be swayed by any such reporting. The real question about pre-trial reporting is the possible effect, not on judges, but on juries.

**N**O one would assert that all jurors have the magnificent detachment attributed to judges. They have not had years of training in distinguishing between the relevant and the irrelevant, the competent and the incompetent.

The problem of public opinion would exist in some degree, however, even if there were no newspapers, radio stations, or television. With all the sensationalism that may be charged to the press, it almost never equals the virulence of word-of-mouth gossip, uncorrected by any printed record.

Such a record always represents some degree of responsibility. It is





A. T. Burch is associate editor of the *Chicago Daily News* and chief of its editorial page. He has held a similar position on the *Cleveland Press*.

open to libel suits. Even a false record is a challenge to correction. Gossip offers no fixed target for the truth.

In the early history of this nation, lynchings now and then took place in small communities, where every man knew every other man, where there was no newspaper, in days long before radio and television were even imagined.

I have no doubt that in some newspaperless towns, lynchings have taken place under the form of law, when every juryman knew the defendant personally, and had his private judgment whether the man needed hanging.

The law has never wholly made up its mind about the functions of the jury, anyhow. In its earliest beginnings it was not even supposed to be unprejudiced. It was made up of men who best knew the prisoner and the circumstances.

That, of course, has not been the conception for centuries past. Impartiality is the key thought of the Bill of Rights guarantee of a fair trial. Nevertheless, we retain the jury system precisely because it has been believed that some element of common garden variety public opinion ought to be interposed between a man accused of crime and a strictly mechanical application of the law to a set of facts. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that we have juries to prevent the conviction of guilty men if their crimes do not offend the moral sense of the community.

**N**OTWITHSTANDING the exposure of juries to all the influences of press, radio and television, does the jury system, on the whole, operate for or against the interests of defendants? The question can be answered by asking another. Do crim-

inal lawyers advocate the abolition of the jury system? The ones I know certainly do not.

Trial by newspaper takes place in big cities, at least, only in a small minority of sensational cases. The press does create a problem in its treatment of these events. But does anyone imagine that the British people, including prospective jurors, do not talk to each other about a celebrated crime before its perpetrator is tried?

The literature on trial by newspaper dwells on the difficulty of getting a jury to adhere to instructions as to the prejudicial matter that a jury should disregard. But perhaps we underestimate the capacity of jurors in this respect.

**W**HAT does a newspaper ever say about a case that is more prejudicial than the very fact that a man has been arrested, has been indicted, has been led into the courtroom under custody to be tried?

The judge instructs the jury that the man is presumed to be innocent until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. This almost amounts to saying that the jurors should believe that the police, the prosecuting attorney and the grand jury, through malice, ignorance or incompetence, may be trying to perpetrate a monstrous injustice. This may actually be true, but surely it is more natural for a juror to start out believing that the prisoner wouldn't be there if he hadn't done it.

Notwithstanding the difficulty, the jurors do seem, for the most part, to comprehend in its truer sense the judge's instruction to withhold judgment until the evidence is in. For they certainly do not convict every defendant—certainly not, for example, in my city of Chicago.

Noting one acquittal after another of grafting politicians and notorious gangsters, the city editor of the *Chicago Daily News* has often been heard to mutter: Chicago is strictly a not-guilty town. Chicago newspapers, however, have some very diligent crime reporters.

Several times in the last year, acquittals in both the federal and county courts in Chicago have brought upon juries the ferocious denunciation of presiding judges—a practice, by the way, which the Chicago Bar Association has reproved by formal resolution. Pre-trial reporting had certainly not damaged the defendants in these cases.

A University of Illinois sociologist recently reported that jurors who had

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Harold H. Smith is teaching American history in Blackfoot, Idaho, between newspapers. He formerly owned the daily Blackfoot Bulletin and has edited papers in two other states.

If time were not so precious a commodity, a newspaperman should have had experience in everyone else's field. That would make him far more valuable to his community, because he would be sympathetic and better informed about the problems of the other person.

After selling a newspaper, I had some doubts about the future, and the newspaper I then wanted to own did not seem immediately available. The local schools, seeing me in too much idleness, put me to work teaching American history. I use the word "work" advisedly.

Nevertheless, I learned here is a valuable training ground for the journalist, so valuable that it should be almost a must for the editorial writer. For teaching a subject is an excellent way of learning it.

The past has much to teach us about how to live in this world of today and tomorrow. But too many students hate history and take it as fill-in. The upshot is that the American people are growing up knowing little, if anything, and caring less, about the history of their country.

It almost seems at times that we prefer making the same mistakes our ancestors made. We go ahead re-making them in each generation as though we owe this courtesy to our forefathers.

Take war, for instance. Consider a potent example, when war seemed inevitable but was eliminated by unforeseen changes on the international front and because a president turned

# A Newspaperman Suggests A Closer Look at History

By HAROLD H. SMITH

Teaching, between editorships, reminds him of some parallels between earlier eras and today's problems.

a deaf ear to his friends. On the other hand, we fought one war after its causes had been eliminated—and this time because a president *did* listen to his friends and declared war rather than try the last chance for peace which would have avoided the War of 1812.

These historical moments suggest to us today that a continual parade of our past by editorial writers and reporters as well as statesmen could do much to make this world a little safer place to inhabit. We don't need to repeat the mistakes of the past but are likely to keep on doing so as long as the majority is ignorant of those mistakes.

NO president wants to be defeated for a second term, for he knows that in defeat he stands a good chance of automatically being chronicled a failure in his first and only term. But a study of his administration in later years might vindicate the man.

John Adams, our second president, was such a man. By his very honesty and ability and his courage to stand up to his friends and say no, Adams almost single-handedly prevented one of those inevitable wars with France.

While the stand Adams took did much to defeat him for a second term, it is significant to recall that he staved off war and that peace, as usual, solved the problems better than war could have. For we know that history teaches that war generally creates more problems than it solves. And it is doubtful that a president who is defeated for reelection is a failure when in his first term he kept the country out of a war which so many of his own party leaders demanded.

Adams had been hounded by his Federalists, and especially the party's leader, Alexander Hamilton, to declare war on France. Any newspaperman knows it is easy to stand up against one's enemies—that his friends are the ones who give him the most trouble. It was so also with John Adams who had a conviction that war with France was neither inevitable nor necessary. But he stood practically alone in his decision.

Adams continued sending envoys to France to delay the war and hoping to arbitrate our differences and keep the peace. Time was on his side, as coming events proved, but there was no way of knowing about those events until they happened. His term came to an end, and unlike another president who was reelected because "he kept us out of war," Adams lost because he had not got us into war.

Jefferson was elected, and during his administration Napoleon came to power in France with plans for a European conquest. For the time, he needed our neutrality—and our cash. Hence, the Louisiana Purchase and an inevitable war turned into lasting peace.

The little lesson in history is that changes in international danger zones have eliminated the threat of war in the past and can do it again even today. This lesson should be pointed out to the people and our leaders constantly.

JAMES MADISON as president failed to display the patience, strength and courage of Adams in the former's dealing with England. And the result was the War of 1812 which gained us nothing that peace could not have attained at a lower price. And we would not have suffered the humiliation of having our Capitol burned.

With the defeat of Adams the party in power had changed from the Federalist, the anti-French group, to the Democratic-Republican anti-British group. And now the potential enemy had changed from French to British, and Madison's party was hounding him for war with England—even though there was still as much reason to fight France. Each power had been molesting our commerce to prevent our trading with the other.

The peacemakers petitioned Madison to send a delegation to London to try to prevent war. The president was said to be on the verge of complying with the wishes of this group when suddenly he called for a declaration of war.

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No, your wife isn't the only one blessed with feminine curiosity. Take it from this north country all answer man

## Women Can Ask the Most Interesting Questions

By BEN KERN

"**H**OW can I tone down my eyes?" the letter asked. "Men always call them bedroom eyes, and it's embarrassing. Do you think I should wear dark glasses?"

I massaged my scalp and advised the lady to drop in at the newspaper city room and let me take a look before I fell into any snap decisions. I advised her to bring along her dark glasses, in case I should start to crack under the strain.

For ten years I have been answering questions from readers of the *Minneapolis Tribune*. I've come out of this inquisition with a mind like a caldron. Odd bits of useless knowledge pop up and bob around like flotsam in a witches' brew.

But from down deep glows one indisputable fact. Women may be whimsical, impertinent, or just zany, but they ask the best questions. Their curiosity and their questions are loaded with stuff that makes readers read.

Bless feminine curiosity.

The office receptionist confronted me with polite disapproval.

"A woman is waiting to see you," she announced. "I was asked to tell you that 'Bedroom Eyes' is here."

Weathering the leers of my fellow reporters, I sidled to the lobby to face a well-dressed fortyish gal of ample proportions who blinked her heavily groomed peepers and fixed me with a hypnotic stare.

"How are they?" she asked.

"Great," I said, loosening my collar. Clutching at straws, I suggested: "Maybe you'd like to go back to our studio so a photographer can take your picture. Then we can let our readers help you solve your problem."

That was Jake with her.

But the next day she sent me a telegram from the other side of town calling the whole thing off.

Trying to forget, I buried myself in my work—answering more questions. I found out that a whale can swallow a man whole, but he's more likely to bite him in two first; that hens with white ear lobes lay white

eggs and those with red ear lobes lay brown eggs.

Soon another woman yanked me from this dry realm of factual information. The woman doesn't breathe who can't teach any man a lesson. The lesson, this time, was that while some dames with practically no problems at all will ask the toughest questions, others, up to their pink little ears in trouble, ask the simplest. Witness this feminine query:

"I was raised a poor girl. I married a man I did not know too much and was told I would not stay with him a year. Well, Doc, I have taken a lot in the last six years. We live in a hut, winter and summer, my bed made on the dirt floor with poles. No cooking range, just a two-burner oil stove. No dish pan or coffee pot. I make coffee in a syrup pail. I have two pairs of overalls and a shirt—no dresses or blouses, slippers, hat or handbag. But he has bought dozens of traps, tents, boats and guns.

"**A** WHILE ago we weeded vegetables and topped 900 bushels of onions in 5½ days for \$70. Then my husband went on a nice drunk. I went with him. That night he wanted to make some easy money and use me as bait. I would not have anything to do with it. He was with another party that would stoop to pick pockets or roll any drunk for his money. My husband got real mad and beat me with a steel flashlight. I called the law. And you know what my 'better half' did—branded me as a cheat and a liar. And when we got home, he accused me of playing around with his friend. He still accuses me even though now he is sober. I have always been a faithful wife. Where is there a lie detector machine? How much will it cost to have a test made?"

A simple question. I told her where she could find one. I don't know whether she used it.

Owing, I suppose, to the stellar role which woman plays in the reproduction of the species, women (more than men) seem interested in genetics and heredity.



As "Mr. Fixit" for the *Minneapolis Tribune*, Ben Kern wants the facts.

Fortunately, close at hand I have the Dight Institute\* and its director, Dr. Sheldon Reed, to advise me on such matters. One of my housewife questioners asked whether children of older parents are apt to be deficient mentally or physically. The answer should interest anyone:

"Older mothers have more abnormal children. There is no evidence to show that the age of the father has anything to do with this. The frequency of physical abnormalities in children (which also may bring mental deficiencies) rises rapidly with the age of the mother. This is true, for example, of mongolism (a congenital malformation in which the child has slanting eyes, a large tongue and a broad, short skull. Such children often are imbeciles).

"**I**T is also true, if you rule out the aforementioned abnormalities, that the average run of children of older parents do better in school than those of younger parents. It might be that older parents give their children more attention and instruction, or it might be that most people who have children at later ages have more intelligence to begin with."

Another gal wrote: "I'm getting tired of wisecracks. My husband has brown eyes. So have I. Our children's eyes are blue. Will you kindly explain why?"

Professor Reed came through handsomely: "Brown-eyed people carry

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\* An endowed department in the University of Minnesota, devoted to the study of heredity.



# Why Can't This Nation of Salesmen Sell Itself to the Millions in Asia?

A newsman fresh from the Far East believes our propaganda agencies have failed to "be quicker with the truth" and endeavors to assess the blame.

By EDWARD HYMOFF

**T**HE nation with the greatest know-how for advertising and selling its goods and services to its own people and to the world has failed to sell itself and democracy—its greatest national product—to Asia. America's information program has failed miserably in the Far East and particularly in Southeast Asia.

Why? Experts in the field of international affairs will say we have no foreign policy for Asia. Experts on propaganda analysis and dissemination will say we haven't used the right tools. And the reporter on the scene—the foreign correspondent—will throw up his hands in disgust and declare that we are not giving the communists any opposition in telling our story in Asia. That, in fact, the Reds have no competition.

The foreign correspondent is correct. He's the man who works round the clock, always competing against his opposition news agencies, to get a better story out first.

And in the battle for men's minds—the sometimes hot and sometimes cold war—America is running a poor second. The failure of the American information program in Asia can be traced to Washington—to Congress, the State Department and the United States Information Agency.

**Congress:** The legislators, who never appropriate enough money or give enough support to the agencies responsible for fighting communism in the never-ending war of words, are partly to blame. Every senator and congressman who has voted against adequate funds shoulders some of the responsibility for the failure.

On the spot interviews of several junketing lawmakers in the Far East, ostensibly to study the effects of the American propaganda effort, showed ignorance of the subject which these men professed to be observing.

One senator questioned at a press conference in Tokyo said the most important thing he learned on his "factfinding" tour was that many Asians "can't read or write and don't even own radios." And for this information he junketed out of Wash-

ington at great expense to the taxpayer when the facts were available in the states. This same senator later voted for a cut in information funds.

**The State Department:** This executive agency should also shoulder some of the blame for the failure of American propaganda in Asia. Many foreign service officers, on all levels, have no idea what part propaganda plays in diplomacy. They have treated USIS, and later USIA, personnel as stepchildren and discriminated against the very people whose job is to tell the world what America is doing in a specific country or area.

During high-level conferences in Korea between Syngman Rhee and a top-ranking under-secretary of state, the USIA's Voice of America correspondent was left out of press conferences and other news briefings. He was neither fish nor fowl; he was totally ignored by the Embassy in Seoul apparently because he worked for a government news agency.

**The U.S. Information Agency:** Equally at fault because of a lack of know-how in presenting the American story. A check of USIA personnel in Asia will show few former newsmen with considerable experience. There are too many social scientists instead of newsmen presenting America's story in Asia. Among USIA people are too many youngsters with limited news experience.

**F**OR some strange reason USIA hires few men with news experience when experienced newsmen are theirs for the asking. There are men available who would jump at the opportunity to earn seven to ten thousand dollars a year, the salaries within their experience bracket.

When the *Times Herald* was discontinued in the nation's capital, few men—if any—were offered jobs by USIA. Lack of a good recruiting program forces USIA to employ inexperienced help.

One plan, never even broached by USIA recruiting personnel, is a program utilizing experienced foreign correspondents and foreign newsdesk

editors from press, radio and television by obtaining two year leaves of absence from their employers. Nor are the unusually long security investigations helpful.

**L**ET'S face it. An Asian can sell communism to another Asian. And Americans can sell democracy to Asians if they have the product to sell and the means to do it. In Indochina, for example, there are some thirty USIA people competing against thousands of communist agitators.

How can we expect to win the propaganda battle with thirty men? But we can win a measure of success if several thousand Asians are put to work for USIA and given the tools and training to help tell our story.

The communists took the anti-colonialism gimmick and used it for all it was worth. They used this slogan over an eight-year period. We are just beginning to use it ourselves.

Last December in Indochina the shape of things to come was as apparent to correspondents as radioactivity is to a geiger counter. Correspondents on the scene were controlled by rigid French censorship. But many newsmen were travelling constantly in and out of Indochina and filing reports that were uncensored and alarmingly true.

Despite these predictions of a stepped up communist offensive and probable loss of northern Vietnam, if not all of Indochina, no clearcut American policy announcement came out of Washington.

At that time there were less than the presently beefed-up staff of thirty USIA information specialists in the three Associated States of Indochina. The men telling America's story to Vietnamese, Laotians and Cambodians were mostly youngsters serving their first tours for USIA.

Indochina is known as a hardship post and extra pay is warranted. But hardship posts in many cases can be sensitive posts where experienced and veteran information specialists are needed. Unfortunately, USIA—like the State Department—has a policy

of reserving the plush posts for those who have served several overseas tours.

But the veteran information specialists—although deserving of plush posts—are needed most in sensitive hardships areas where American prestige is endangered.

**F**INALLY, there is the top-level psychological warfare or propaganda board which has failed to exploit the right tools and gimmicks at the right time. A few who know news placed with this vital policy planning group would know how to compete with communism on the down-to-earth propaganda level.

Theodore Roosevelt once explained how he got his ideas across to the public, despite conflicting reports from his political opponents, with this brief homily: "The truth, the truth! Be quicker with the truth!" In this respect the U.S. propaganda program has failed.

Top policy makers are too slow in presenting rebuttals to communist propaganda. But working newsmen—not publishers or ivory tower executive editors—placed on the policy planning board would know how to present a swift and truthful comeback, and a better story.

During the Korean war, just to illustrate a few points, the United Nations Command (namely the U.S. Army) psywar program was somewhat of a flop because of a lack of coordination between the military and the USIS and later the USIA. Psywar defined its success by the millions of leaflets dropped behind enemy lines rather than in qualitative analysis.

The Kojé Island riots offer an illustration. When General Nam Il at Panmunjom used the truce talks as a propaganda platform to accuse Americans of "slaughtering" communist POWs, United Nations counter-propaganda was absent.

At first, and rightly so, communist charges were not worth dignifying with an answer. But when Nam Il's tactics became apparent and effective behind the Iron and Bamboo Curtains, counter-propaganda was indicated.

War correspondents and even the Voice of America reporters asked the United Nations Command for permission to interview anti-communist POWs on Kojé. This request was refused time and time again. And the psywar section just sat on its hands. The press knew what was needed to combat Red propaganda; the people concerned with propaganda either didn't know or just didn't care.

Finally, the Far East Command



Now an NBC news editor in New York, Ed Hymoff covered the Korean war and filed from Thailand to Japan in recent years for INS and other employers.

psywar section sent men into the POW camps to make tape interviews of anti-communist POWs. But the effect of this mission was lost by failure to get and use the recordings at the right time. Instead, psywar broadcast the recordings of prisoners who refused to return to communist control almost a year after they were made.

The propaganda decisions, unfortunately, were all made 10,000 miles from the scene—in Washington—by men whose hands were tied because of a lack of policy.

Again, when several communist soldiers defected to Allied lines through the Panmunjom neutral zone it was weeks before the first propaganda leaflets telling of the incidents were dropped behind enemy lines. It was usually two or three weeks before the defectors (Chinese and North Korean) were permitted to appear before the press. There were even several instances when this writer was denied—on security grounds—permission to read psywar radio scripts beamed into North Korea.

Failure to play a good story for all its worth is partly to be blamed on the intelligence services. Intelligence feels they should get all information first. Nobody disputes this view. But the intelligence agencies, for some

strange reason, believe they should keep valuable propaganda information secret. This is a vital drawback and one reason why our counter-propaganda has been too slow.

A recent example is the Otto John case. The West German traitor held a press conference in East Berlin attended by western reporters. His story was flashed around the world. We needed immediate counter-propaganda but it wasn't until several days later that the United States permitted former Soviet spy Yuri Rostorov to tell his story.

**I**N the rough and tumble highly competitive news business a good editor would have released the Rostorov story as soon as possible to top the opposition and take away some of the sting. In short, America has not been "quicker with the truth."

The U.S. information program, from top to bottom, needs more experienced newsmen and a more professional touch. If the government would take a lesson from Radio Free Europe, which has gone out of its way to hire professional newsmen, the American story could be told more effectively. Even more important: Our greatest national product could be sold to those peoples in Asia seeking a better way of life.

# Women Ask the Best Questions

(Continued from page 11)

the genes for blue eyes (the brown covers the blue) and it is not exceptional for them to have blue-eyed children. On the other hand, if both parents' eyes are true blue (not some shade of hazel or green) all their children will have blue eyes."

**I** LOVE women's minds. You never know what they'll think of next. They're so down-to-earth. Down-to-earth? Look at this:

"Does it get warmer as one goes down deeper underground?"

Yes, it does. In some of the warmer mines, like those at Butte, Mont., the temperature rises one degree for every 55 to 60 feet downward.

The feminine mind soars, too. "What makes a bee buzz?"

A bee buzzes because its body is heavier, in relation to its wing area, than the body of a non-buzzing insect.

An experienced entomologist can tell whether a bee is angry, swarming, a young bee on an orientation flight, or working by listening to the pitch of its buzz.

And get this, ladies—when about to mate, the queen bee wings skyward with a low insinuating buzz and the male pursues. In fact, several pursue as a rule and the strongest and fastest wins. Then he falls dead. Romantic, isn't it?

But bees have little bees and women have babies, and then the trouble begins. This woman didn't think it would begin quite so soon.

"Can the hospital hold my baby until my bill is paid?" she wrote.

It didn't take a Solomon to answer that one.

But that's nothing. Another mother's troubles began still earlier. "I'm pregnant," she wrote, "and I eat refrigerator frost every day. Is this a perverted appetite?"

Well, it is in the sense that it is "misdirected," but not in the sense that it is "wilfully wicked or vicious," which is the dictionary definition of "perverted." I trust my answer helped her eat frost with a clear conscience.

It has been my experience that, answer-wise, women are easily pleased.

A nice young blonde got a chance to work her way through a fly-by-night commercial art school by acting as a model. She quit in a huff when she was reprimanded for tardiness. What steamed her was that one teacher who liked to make with the big friendly act didn't go to bat for her

when it really would have counted.

"He used to put his hand on my back and ask, 'How's my girl doing today?'" she recalled. "I should have said, 'Take your big fat hand off my back, you so-and-so.'"

I printed the letter without any appreciable advice on my part, but she was so happy to see that "take your big fat hand off my back" in print that she hitch-hiked clear across town to thank me.

Some are strong and some weak, but bless them all. I don't go along with Hamlet, who said, "Frailty, thy name is woman," but a few have given me pause. Example:

"Two months ago," this frail wrote, "I took the Chicago North Western from St. Paul. During the night I got up from my seat and stood on the outside of the smoking room. A service man also was standing there, so we started a conversation. Our conversation went from one thing to another and I started to ramble on about some domestic troubles I was having, and he was a sympathetic listener.

"We talked all the way to Chicago. I had to change trains and he was spending the day there. He helped me get my luggage down and said, 'I'll watch for you in the station. If you don't catch your train, I'll be seeing you.'"

"I started down the platform with my bag. I asked the conductor if I could get the 9:15 train and he said I might if I hurried, but by the time I got to the end of the walk, I knew it would be too late to go to the other station. I suppose the soldier went to the left where the cab stands are, but I went down to the information stand, so I missed him.

"I will try to give you a description of him—well-built and about 33. Possibly older, but I don't think so. I am just starting my thirties and I felt he was as old as I was at least. Sort of blondish. About six feet or possibly 5-10 or 11.

"If you do publish this please don't give any other name than ANXIOUS as should my husband see my name I am afraid of the results."

I told her to write to the long-suffering Adjutant General's Office in Washington. They can always use a laugh in the Pentagon.

But don't think I'm just a big clown who sits back in his easy chair and goes "yuckle-yuckle" at all the girls' problems.

If someone could figure out a way

for young mothers to earn money at home, he'd be a national hero. I get an awful lot of questions from these gals, and I'm glad to have been able at least to steer them away from a few sucker traps.

Usually they read a little come-on somewhere promising big rewards for homework. A typical one urges the reader to send \$5 for a list of firms which hire women to address envelopes at home. Many an eager young wife has bought the list, only to find that the firms named on it not only aren't interested in her services but are indignant to learn that the firm name had been used in this shabby fashion.

Another sharper mails mimeographed ads offering to train housewives in the home manufacture of neckties. It's easy, he writes. Just send \$10 for materials and he'll buy all the satisfactory ties you make.

"Satisfactory" is the joker. Many an expert needleworker is turned down on this one. "Teacher" is sorry, but he can't use her finished product—not quite up to standard—but perhaps she can peddle them herself. If so, he'll be glad to sell her plenty of material. I've warned away many nibblers.

I try to be similarly helpful about problems with a little more scope to them. Whenever I can, I search the past for better oracles than I.

Shakespeare, for instance, is full of warnings, but if you want to encourage faltering young love, what's better than:

*What is love? 'tis not hereafter;  
Present mirth hath present laughter;  
What's to come is still unsure:  
In delay there lies no plenty—  
Then come and kiss me, Sweet-and-twenty,  
Youth's a stuff will not endure.*

I used that on a couple under the threat of selective service.

**O**F all the quotations I've found, I'm proudest of one which, I think, answers beyond peradventure a query from an aspiring girl model. "Is there any danger from artists?" she asked.

The man I quoted was an artist well-qualified to speak on this subject—Benvenuto Cellini. In his autobiography he narrates a long incident involving one of his models. My favorite excerpt goes:

"Yielding myself to a blind rage, I seized her by the hair and dragged her up and down my room, beating and kicking her until I was tired."

It answers the question all right, all right.



# 'Trial by Newspaper' Is Often Exercise of a Public Duty to Yell 'Stop Thief'

(Continued from page 9)

read something about a crime before trial were more likely to vote for conviction on the first ballot. I'm not sure what this proved, if anything.

It may prove that jurors intelligent enough to read newspapers are not quite so apt to be hopelessly bemused by the court's instructions about reasonable doubt. I fear that some Chicago jurors understand "beyond reasonable doubt" to mean that nobody should be convicted unless the prosecution can present moving pictures of the crime in technicolor with full sound effects.

I have not made the foregoing observations to deny totally any risk that justice may miscarry through "trial by newspaper." I have merely attempted to put the problem into some kind of perspective.

**T**HE Supreme Court of the United States has reversed convictions by state courts because the trial took place in the actual presence of intimidating mobs. A newspaper can be the leader of a mob, and, God forgive us, I am afraid that newspapers sometimes have been.

The Supreme Court of the United States has reversed at least one conviction because a newspaper published a purported confession which was never introduced in the trial. It has reversed the conviction of a United States collector of revenue on the ground that publicity made it impossible for him to get a fair trial at the time and place where he was tried. He had asked for a delay, and it had been refused.

I am sure the state courts of final appeal have ordered retrials under some such circumstances when justice so required. There is, therefore, some remedy available to the defendant if the press endangers him—at least once in a while. The remedy might, unfortunately, be slow and costly, like so many other remedies at law.

Those who favor the English system want to reduce this jeopardy by putting criminal penalties on papers if they talk too much about a pending case.

There was a time when at least

one great American paper favored this, though it no longer does. The Chicago *Tribune* demanded a law to restrain itself and its competitors on July 23, 1924, in the aftermath of the Loeb and Leopold convictions, referred to in the *Tribune* as the Franks case. In an editorial captioned "Justice and Publicity" it said in part:

**"C**RIMINAL justice in America is now a Roman holiday. The courts are in the Colosseum. The state's attorney's office is an open torture room of human souls. Exposure of the processes of justice, originally a public safeguard, has been perverted into a public danger. . . .

"The Franks case has been a three months' moral pestilence imposed upon our people before the trial. It is an aggravated instance of what has happened with increasing frequency for two decades since the Thaw trial and before. There is reason for the statement by the chief justice of the United States that the product of our judicial machine is a national disgrace. It has been turned into a public show.

"The injury to justice is in *publicity before the trial*. Newspaper trials before the case is called have become an abomination. The dangerous initiative that newspapers have taken in judging and convicting out of court is journalistic lynch law. It is a mob murder or mob acquittal in all but the overt act. It is mob appeal. Prosecuting attorneys now hasten to the papers with their theories and confessions. Defense attorneys do the same. Neither dares do otherwise. Half-wit juries or prejudiced juries are the inevitable result.

"The *Tribune* has its share of blame in this. No newspaper can escape it. They have met demand, and in meeting it stimulated public appetite for more. . . .

"Papers that refuse to accept this harsh discipline of public demand will die. Many have died. A debased currency always will displace a sound currency.

"The slide downhill is inevitable. Who can deny that it is founded on

authentic human nature? General reform must be undertaken or none at all. The nation's press must act together.

"There is one remedy. Drastic restriction of publicity before the trial must be imposed by law. . . ."

The editorial went on, however, to call for the fullest possible reporting of the actual trial, including broadcast of the proceedings by radio in important cases. Television had not been invented.

This editorial was printed thirty years ago. The *Tribune* has not in recent years repeated its demand for a law to restrain pre-trial publicity, and, I understand, would oppose one now. It has often repeated its insistence on the right of full reporting of the actual proceedings by any means which does not disturb them.

The restraints imposed on picture-taking, broadcasting and televising in courtrooms have been fully and competently debated before a section of the American Bar Association. In my opinion it is perfectly correct to prohibit them when they would create a disturbance. A mob of photographers banging away with flash bulbs does create a disturbance. So does the cumbersome machinery ordinarily used in broadcasting and televising.

Cameras and films, however, have been so improved that a still picture can be taken even indoors without disturbing anybody. If it is done this way, there is no reason to forbid it.

**T**HE hall of the United Nations has been provided with glassed-in side galleries where even moving pictures and television may operate without disturbing anybody. The very presence of the machines and their operators is not easy to detect from the floor.

Similar equipment could be provided in new courtrooms to be built or remodelled hereafter. To thrust a television camera directly into the face of a witness would surely increase the chances of error in his testimony by confusion and embarrassment.

I had to stand up all one afternoon in the press alcove to hear arguments before the Supreme Court of the United States in the school segregation case. Only a few could find standing room. Had the courtroom been equipped like the United Nations, a great public service would have been performed by telecasting this session of the court. To deny this, it seems to me, is to deny some of the basic premises of democracy.

Existing restraints in this field should be modified, and I predict they

will be, step by step, with the improvement in the arts involved and provision of off-stage facilities for them.

I deliberately offer the phrase "off-stage" to attack by opponents of this view. Why should anyone deny that dramatic elements are inherent in great trials?

If there were in the archives motion pictures with sound recordings of Aaron Burr's trial for treason or the Supreme Court's hearing of the Dred Scott case, would a judge's dignity or that of those old courts be degraded by attending a showing? This generation could make such contributions to history and the education of the next generation's youth. Why should it not do so?

**T**O return to the danger (not very clear or present) that some bar association will persuade another state to adopt a law like the rule the Maryland Court of Appeals knocked out. It doesn't seem to me there is a serious chance that such a law would be upheld by the United States Supreme Court.

Since *Bridges v. California*, the Supreme Court of the United States has not lowered its estimate of the high value to be given press freedom weighed against other considerations. The vote was five to four in that case. It was unanimous in *Pennekamp v. Florida*.

There were only two dissenters in *Craig v. Harney*, which came up from Texas. Frankfurter is the only one of the dissenters in *Bridges v. California* still serving. All but one of the original majority are still on the bench.

The English example would not be persuasive to those who joined with Justice Black in this declaration:

"No purpose in ratifying the Bill of Rights was clearer than that of securing for the people of the United States much greater freedom of religion, expression, assembly and petition than the people of Great Britain had ever enjoyed."—I might add—have ever enjoyed.

But if they were constitutional, would the English restraints be desirable? The English practice assumes a police and court system functioning with almost automatic precision. It does work with an efficiency that presents an amazing contrast with our own.

England is a country where perfect order is preserved by policemen who carry no weapon more deadly than a billy club. The police never torture suspects, and even the traffic cops are polite.

Are the British so law-abiding because their criminal procedure is so effective? Or is their procedure so effective because the people present it with few and simple problems?

It does not work with absolute infallibility. Last year they hanged John Christie for murdering six women over a period of years. He confessed all these crimes and the court believed him. The trouble is that the British had already hanged another man for killing two of these women.

England, remember, is a country where an editor can be fined for assigning his own men to investigate a case and publishing the findings after a suspect has been arrested. It is quite possible that, if some enterprising crime reporters had worked on the case, they wouldn't have hanged the wrong man before they hanged the right one. In the United States, certainly, many an innocent man owes his liberty or even his life to the enterprise of investigating newspapermen.

**E**NDLESS statistics could be cited to illustrate the difference between the crime problem in England and the United States. One will suffice. I am indebted for it to Virgil W. Peterson, operating director of the Chicago Crime Commission.

In 1952 there were only nineteen armed robberies in all of London and its suburbs, though Britishers were complaining about the breakdown of moral standards after the war. Chicago, with considerably less than half the population of London, had 4,400 armed robberies in the same year. Throughout the nation, only a third of such crimes of violence result in indictments.

In Chicago, Mr. Peterson wrote in the *Atlantic Monthly*, there have been approximately 700 gang murders during the past twenty-five years. He notes that the number of persons convicted in connection with these slayings could be counted on one's fingers. I think he would have a hard time filling out both hands.

Notwithstanding the evil reputation Chicago gained in the old Capone days, Chicago's crime rates are no worse than those of other big cities. Are the newspapers to stand passively by, mere spectators of this awful anarchy?

It is not merely their privilege but their duty to combat it, by every legitimate means in their power. The real complaint that should be made against American newspapers is that they do not fight it hard enough or effectively enough.

The arrogance of organized crime is a provocation not only to honest indignation but (human nature being what it is) to blind rage. The newspaper doing its duty should stay angry, but it should not go blind.

The noblest services of American newspapers to their readers have been their exposures of public corruption and politically protected crime. From the Tweed ring in 1870 to the New York race track and water front rackets in 1953, there has not been a year when American newspapers have not exposed and destroyed conspiracies against the public purse and the public safety.

In the course of these crusades they have printed some matter prejudicial to potential defendants. Sometimes—and courts should be grateful for it—they have used their columns to prove the guilt of public enemies by evidence so indisputable that no shyster was slick enough, no prosecutor weak enough, no machine-kept judge crooked enough, to refute it or evade it.

It is the newspaper's duty to print facts, not to try them. That is the duty of the courts. We want them to do it thoroughly and fairly. We do not want to threaten them or coerce them or influence them improperly. But we don't want a pack of thieving politicians, whose help may be far more useful than ours to a judge at election time, to coerce them, either.

We want every defendant to have the benefit of due process—the whole treatment, with all the trimmings. But we see too much of the undue processes that help armies of dangerous malefactors to escape conviction, indictment, or even arrest.

**I**F we seem to "usurp" the investigating functions of the police and the prosecutor's aides once in a while it is merely because they are not doing the job themselves. Actually, it has never been a usurpation of anything for a citizen to holler "stop thief" when he sees a pocket being picked or to yell "bloody murder" when one take place before his eyes. We mean to keep on hollering.

Some day the American people may become so law-abiding that newspapers can lay down their arduous and expensive duty to investigate everything. Then they can give more of their effort to such topics as the irreconcilable conflict between Christian Dior and Marilyn Monroe.

But if we are going to make it a crime for newspapers to investigate crime, let's wait until some year when there are only nineteen armed robberies in Chicago.

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# The Book Beat

By **DICK FITZPATRICK**

**"N**O profession within the reach of mankind is quite as important for the well-being of society as that of the journalist or newspaperman. The lawyer's mission is to assure equity and justice among men; the divine's mission, to guide the soul; the medical doctor's, to heal the physical body.

"But the journalist's role is to keep pure the stream of life known as political government. Hence there is no calling which can attract the modern young man or woman to greater service to his fellow men than that of the newspaper world."

This is the theme of a new book **"Newsmen Speak: Journalists on Their Craft"** (University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, \$3.50) edited by Edmond D. Coblentz, a veteran Hearst executive. The quoted statement is from the excellent foreword by Dr. Joseph A. Brandt, chairman of the graduate department of journalism at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Coblentz has done a superb job in bringing together short statements from the work of thirty-four leaders in American journalism and a top British publisher.

The first section on "Journalists and Journalism" includes selections from Joseph Pulitzer, James Gordon Bennett Jr., Adolph S. Ochs, E. W. Scripps, Arthur Brisbane, William Allen White and William Randolph Hearst.

Section Two, which tells what makes a good paper, includes bylines of Arthur Krock, Bob Considine, Herbert Bayard Swope, Roy W. Howard, David Lawrence, Arthur Hays Sulzberger, Norman Chandler, John Cowles, William Randolph Hearst Jr., John S. Knight and Colonel Robert R. McCormick.

The work of two of the great mass journalists of this century—Lord Northcliffe and Hearst—is given extensive treatment. Northcliffe's statement occupies ten pages while Hearst's runs for twenty-seven.

The Hearst statement is rather extensive and covers rules for a good newspaper, condensation, pictures, promotion, summation, newspaper requisites, newspaper writing, facts and scandal, advice to reporters and editors, newspaper makeup, advertising, and character and training of advertising men.

In his foreword, Dr. Brandt calls

special attention to Hearst's concepts of journalism. He says they will be "of particular interest to many readers who have formed a jaundiced view of Hearst because of his controversial place in journalism. These precepts are refreshingly challenging as a directive for forthright journalism if implicitly followed."

Special phases of journalism are covered in Part 4 of the book by these well-known names in journalism: Henry Watterson, Robert U. Brown, O. O. McIntyre, Relman Morin, Seymour Berkson, Hugh Baillie, Kent Cooper, Paul De Kruif, Gardner Cowles, Bruce Barton, Ward Greene, John N. Wheeler, Barris Jenkins, Gilbert P. Farrar, George E. Pancoast, Oveta Culp Hobby and Edmond D. Coblentz.

From this 197-page book, one can get an excellent sense of American journalism. It is a superior selection of material by men who know how to write. It should be of interest to the general reader and would be absolutely absorbing for the journalism student. It is highly recommended for any newsman's library.

In connection with the bicentennial of Columbia University, Journalism Professor Richard T. Baker has prepared **"A History of the Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University"** (Columbia University Press, New York, \$2.75). This is one of nineteen volumes giving the history of Columbia.

This 144-page illustrated book tells a story of this great journalism school and outlines a philosophy of journalism. In addition to reporting the school's development, it has interesting chapters on the Pulitzer prizes and the American Press Institute.

**W**ITH more journalists going into television, it appears that those that will get ahead fastest are those who are both the best newsmen and have the most extensive knowledge of television. For one who has some technical knowledge, a new book called **"Principles and Practices of Telecasting Operations"** (Howard W. Sams and Co., Inc., Indianapolis, \$7.95) by Howard E. Ennes, on the staff of station WIRE and an instructor at Butler University, should be helpful.

However, the reader should have a fundamental knowledge of the theory of radio. If he has this, then he can

understand the five chapters which deal with the theory of TV, three chapters on operating the TV studio equipment, two chapters on operating TV field equipment and two chapters on transmitter circuits, operation and maintenance. This 596-page book includes a detailed glossary of production terms and technical definitions and also a handy reference guide to TV rules and regulations.

It is a well-done book with complete material on all types of equipment and technical problems of presentation.

## He Suggests A Closer Look At History

(Continued from page 10)

Just two days before our declaration of war against England, Parliament had acceded to the demands of its own people and rescinded the policies which had been antagonizing the United States. Had there been an Atlantic cable to notify Madison of Parliament's decision, or if the president had sent the delegation to England, the War of 1812, like the postponed war with France under Adams, would not have been fought.

The newspapers can do a better job of influencing the people to employ wise and stubborn statesmen to assure the country's peace and progress. People usually get what they demand in government and nothing more.

Can the press do anything to avert, rather than abet, the present trend toward war? Or should the trend be supported, following Syngman Rhee's advice that it is now or never for victory for the free world?

With all our books, magazines and newspapers, it is logical to believe we should be a well-informed people. But we are confused and may be delaying decisions that should be made.

We readers are "news-drunk," as Barry Bingham pointed out in *THE QUILL*, in July, but we are information-hungry. We ask for more interpretation with our news.

As a newspaperman who has been on the outside looking in, my conclusion is that the newspapers have before them the greatest opportunity in their history to make themselves necessary in every home. They can do that by helping us make the decisions which are going abegging. But this calls for newspaper people who know their country's history.

## 96 Senators Sounded on Secrecy

A Sigma Delta Chi committee, named to advance Freedom of Information, has released a 26-page report, blasting the rule of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 which is the key to the general practice of secret executive meetings of Congressional Committees. The act reads as follows:

"Section 133 (f): All hearings conducted by standing committees or their subcommittees shall be open to the public, except executive sessions for marking up bills or for voting, or where the committee by a majority vote orders an executive session."

A comment from the report on this act was: "Thus, under this ruling, any Congressional Committee for any excuse may order its doors locked at any time and deprive the people of their inherent right to know about their government."

According to the committee, headed by V. M. Newton Jr., managing editor of the *Tampa Tribune*, "... editors wrote ... and laid the blame for the secret executive sessions of their local school boards directly to the precedent of the secret executive sessions of Congressional Committees."

Essentially, there is little difference between the secret Communistic government of Soviet Russia and the secret executive government of an American school board, city council or Congressional Committee. Each does the people's business behind locked doors without the restraint of public opinion and where political privilege rules supreme, and then each issues a propaganda statement to the people."

The Committee acted on the question raised in the report, "with the precedent of a secret executive government firmly entrenched in Congress, why shouldn't our public officials on the lower levels of American government follow suit and also eliminate the restraint of public opinion in favor of the somewhat tarnished philosophy of political privilege?"

Seeking to hit the problem at its cause, Newton wrote early in March to each of the 96 U. S. Senators. He called attention to the fact that in 1953 Congressional Committees held 1,357 secret meetings which constituted 44 per cent of the total 3,105 meetings held by those groups.

Included in the letter was the following which pointed out the fact that "Very few of these secret meetings were concerned with matters of national security. Much of the legislation conceived and congealed behind the locked doors of these secret Congressional Committee meetings was railroaded through Congress with a minimum of public de-

(Turn to page III)

## Expect Record Attendance at 45th Anniversary Gathering, Nov. 10-13

Five nationally-known journalists have already been lined up for the speaking program at the 45th annual convention of Sigma Delta Chi in Columbus, O., Nov. 10-13.

General Chairman George A. Smallsreed, Sr., editor of *The Columbus Dispatch* and president of the Central Ohio Professional Chapter, Sigma Delta Chi, said the convention committee had acceptances from John Cowles, Minneapolis, Minn., publisher; Richard W. Slocum, general manager of *The Philadelphia Bulletin* and president of the American Newspaper Publishers Association; Carl E. Lindstrom, executive editor, *The Hartford (Conn.) Times*; Milt Caniff, cartoonist, and Earl Wilson, columnist.

## Memphis Group To Receive Charter

Sigma Delta Chi has added another Professional chapter to its ranks, making the total chapters number 41.

The Executive Council approved the petition from members in Memphis, Tenn., recently. Wallace Witmer, of Wallace Witmer Co., 1368 Monroe Ave., Memphis, was elected president of the group. C. O. Hinderer, better known as Steve Warren to his radio and television audiences, is vice president, and James A. Foltz Jr., business manager of the Memphis Publishing Co., is secretary-treasurer.

Pending installation as a chapter was the Central Pennsylvania Professional group with headquarters in Harrisburg. The chapter was approved last April. Installation was scheduled for Sept. 25, in Lancaster, Pa.

Luther Huston, Washington Bureau of the *New York Times* and past president of SDX, was to preside over the chartering ceremony. Theodore Serrill, general manager of the Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers Association and Pennsylvania State Chairman, is credited with organizing the chapter.

The petition from the Akron Professional Chapter is now before the Executive Council. Murray Powers, managing editor of the *Akron Beacon Journal*, was elected president of the group. The other officers are Lorin Troyer, *Kent-Courier Tribune*, vice-president; Albert Walker, Akron University, secretary, and George Mentzer, B. F. Goodrich, treasurer.

At present there are 99 chapters of Sigma Delta Chi, 58 Undergraduate and 41 Professional.

## Sorry

Raymond Miles, the outstanding Sigma Delta Chi graduate from North Texas State College, was omitted from the story in the July, 1954, issue of *THE QUILL* listing the men who received achievement citations this year.

The Central Ohio Professional and Ohio State University chapters are co-sponsors of the meetings at the Deshler-Hilton Hotel.

Approximately 400 members and their wives are expected at the convention. A special program of activities is being planned for the ladies.

Registration fee of \$25 will include the opening reception, one dinner, annual banquet, three luncheons and a side trip. Hotel reservations may be sent to the Deshler-Hilton, SDX convention headquarters.

Brady Black of *The Cincinnati Enquirer* Columbus Bureau, who is program chairman, announced the nucleus of a busy four-day program.

An evening reception will top off opening day activities Wednesday. Registration opens at 10 a.m. as does the annual meeting of the Executive Council.

The opening session Thursday will see the convention's official opening with a call to order by Robert U. Brown of *Editor & Publisher*, Sigma Delta Chi national president.

Smallsreed and Mayor M. E. Sensenbrenner of Columbus will welcome delegates Thursday morning. Cowles then will give the keynote address.

Gov. Frank J. Lausche of Ohio will give his welcome at the Thursday luncheon, which will be featured by Slocum's address. Panel discussions are scheduled for Thursday afternoon. Lindstrom will headline one of them, on interpretive writing.

Cartoonist Caniff will be the luncheon speaker Friday while Columnist Wilson will be toastmaster at the annual banquet Saturday.

Presiding at some of the meetings and luncheons will be Ed Dooley, managing editor, *Denver Post* and Sigma Delta Chi secretary; Mason R. Smith, publisher, *Gouverneur (N. Y.) Tribune Press* and Sigma Delta Chi vice president; Lee Hills, executive editor, *Detroit Free Press*, and Executive Council Chairman; Alvin E. Austin, vice president, Under-

(Turn to page II)

graduate Chapter affairs, and Alden C. Waite, vice president, Professional Chapter affairs.

Another inducement to Sigma Delta Chi members and their wives to attend the convention is the completion of the new \$200,000 Sky Room in the Deshler Hilton Hotel. The schedule called for a deadline of Oct. 1.

According to Truett I. Gore, general manager, three sides of the air-conditioned dine and dance spot on the sixteenth floor will be glass-enclosed so guests will have a view of the city from any place in the room. The Sky Room will serve luncheon, dinner and supper. Also on the completion schedule was the rehabilitation of 545 guest rooms in the Lincoln LeVeque Tower.

## Nominations for Fellows Invited

Nominations are about to close for the election of Fellows in journalism. The deadline is Nov. 1.

Rules call for the selection of not more than three living journalists who have a distinguished career in the profession. All nominations are reviewed by a committee of past presidents of Sigma Delta Chi which will present not more than six candidates to the national convention of the fraternity Nov. 10-13 at Columbus, Ohio. Chairman of the committee is Lee Hills, executive editor of the *Detroit Free Press*.

Nominations may be made by any individual, chapter or fraternity member. Those nominated need not be members of the fraternity.

No entry blanks are necessary, but nominations should be in writing and sent to Headquarters, Sigma Delta Chi, 35 East Wacker Drive, Chicago 1, Ill., before the deadline, Nov. 1, to be considered.

Journalists already honored by the fraternity in this manner and elected as Fellows are: Harry J. Grant, chairman of board, *The Milwaukee Journal*; Barry Faria, editor-in-chief, *International News Service*, New York; Erwin Canham, editor, *Christian Science Monitor*, Boston, Mass.; Palmer Hoyt, editor and publisher, *The Denver Post*; Dr. Frank Luther Mott, School of Journalism, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.; James G. Stahlman, *Nashville Banner*; Benjamin M. McKelway, editor, *Washington Star*; Howard Blakeslee, *Associated Press*, New York (deceased); Walter Lippmann, editorial columnist, *New York Herald-Tribune*;

Irving Dilliard, editor, editorial page, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*; Edward R. Murrow, Columbia Broadcasting System, New York; Dr. Alberto Gainza Paz, former publisher, *La Prensa*, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Louis B. Seltzer, editor, *Cleveland Press*; James S. Pope, executive editor, *Louisville Courier-Journal*; James B. Reston, *New York Times*, Washington, D. C.; Basil J. Walters, executive editor, *Knight Newspapers, Inc.*, Chicago; Bill Henry, National Broadcasting Company, Washington, D. C.; Hodding Carter, editor and publisher, *Delta Democrat-Times*, Greenville, Miss.

### Sigma Delta Chi Calendar

Nov. 10-13—Sigma Delta Chi, Professional Journalistic Fraternity, Convention, Columbus, Ohio, Deshler-Hilton Hotel.

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### SITUATION WANTED

**PUBLICITY** (Radio, TV, Trade, Magazine) Specialist, New York City representative, seeking out-of-town accounts. Fee Basis; also special rates for permanent connection. Sigma Delta Chi member. Box 1077, THE QUILL.

Correspondent wishes to write for some more technical and non-technical publications, magazines, etc. Would also like to act as agent for American writers wishing to place their manuscripts in Africa. Peter Holz, Box 10581, Johannesburg, South Africa.

**WANTED: CITY EDITOR**, 40,000 Indiana daily. Strong P. M. MUST have Indiana background or experience. Real opportunity for right person with ability, initiative and enterprise. Preferably in 30s. Permanent job. Give education, qualifications, salary requirements first letter. Box 1089, THE QUILL.

Newsman, 26, year radio plus national publication experience; M.A. Midwestern journalism school; know cinematography, television presentation. Seek TV, radio news or house org. opening. Box 1090, THE QUILL.

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### SDX Seeks Special Stamp

Looking forward to celebrating its first 50 years in 1959, Sigma Delta Chi has petitioned Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield to issue a commemorative stamp marking the occasion.

Included in the petition, written by President Robert U. Brown, were the statements: "We believe that such a commemorative stamp would be in the public interest because the Fraternity has worked ceaselessly for fifty years for truth in journalism and improved standards and ideals for all media. We believe that in the public interest the Fraternity has had considerable success in this primary endeavor.

"The organization is unique in that it is the only journalistic group which confines its membership exclusively to the news and editorial side of the business, and is the only one that includes all media of communications from newspapers and magazines to radio and television. It is strictly a professional society and bears no resemblance to the usual Greek letter fraternities. There is nothing secret about the rules, regulations and activities which is in keeping with our fundamental beliefs as news men."

Indiana University will memorialize two of its journalism alumni, Ernie Pyle and Don Mellett, in the new journalism building nearing completion. Both men were killed in the line of newspaper duty, Pyle by a Japanese sniper's bullet during World War II and Mellett by a gangster's bullet in 1926.

## QUILL Enlarges News, Ad Staff

Twenty-two correspondents and the same number of advertising representatives have been added to the staff of THE QUILL.

Presidents from each of the 41 Professional chapters have been asked to name a correspondent and an advertising representative from their respective chapters in order to help make THE QUILL bigger and better.

Letters were sent to the newly appointed correspondents requesting manuscripts, personal news items and other items of interest to THE QUILL readers. The representatives were advised that more money from advertising would give QUILL the facilities to put out a bigger and better magazine.

Everyone in Sigma Delta Chi, as well as our advertisers, benefit from a QUILL that is tops. Won't you do your part to put it there? If you have a lead on a good article or know of an advertiser who needs a top medium that reaches the best in the journalistic world, contact your correspondent or representative.

The following list includes the members who have been appointed at present: Lynn N. Bailey, correspondent, and Darwin K. Flanigan, representative, Memphis; James Julien, correspondent, and Herbert Fredman, representative, San Diego; Bill Lyons, correspondent, and Robert W. Evans, representative, Southern Illinois; Walter Conahan, correspondent, and Homer Givens, representative, South Dakota; Al Austin, correspondent, and Bill Hyvonen, representative, North Dakota; Odom Fanning, correspondent, Atlanta; Lloyd Larrabee, correspondent, and J. J. Pickle, representative, Austin; William Howley, correspondent, and Charles Larson, representative, Central Michigan; Nicholas Popa, correspondent and representative, Central Ohio; Jack Rolf, correspondent, and Les Harris, representative, Dallas; Richard Randolph, correspondent, Detroit; Ray Wiker, correspondent, and Walter Page, representative, Florida West Coast; Frank Berry, correspondent, and Rudolph J. Fiala Jr., representative, Illinois Valley.

Roger Swanson, correspondent, and Frank Robinson, representative, Kansas City; Franklin B. Skeele, correspondent, and Bill Baxter, representative, Los Angeles; Bernard D. Rosenthal, correspondent and representative, Louisville; Walter Kante, correspondent, and Les Hofemeister, representative, Milwaukee; William Richardson, correspondent, and Robert Van Driel, representative, New Mexico; William Niefeld, correspondent, and Calvin D. Wood, representative, Northern California; Claron Burnett, correspondent, and Lemuel D. Groom, representative, Oklahoma; Art McQuiddy, correspondent, and Robert Cutler, representative, Utah; Robert Hilburn, correspondent, and Thomas L. Yates, representative, Fort Worth.

### Books by Brothers

WALTER O'MEARA will have a new novel, "The Spanish Bride," published by G. P. Putnam's Sons this month. His last book, "The Grand Portage," was a national best seller and was the first novel to be printed by the Library of Congress in Braille.



## Chapter Activities

**LOS ANGELES—SAN DIEGO**—Trains, swim fins, boats, cars and buses were among the modes of transportation used by Sigma Delta Chis from the professional chapters of San Diego and Los Angeles and the university chapters at USC and UCLA as they conducted an all-day joint meeting last July.

The newsmen from Los Angeles chartered two cars of a train, including a lounge with special provisions, as they made the 125-mile trek to San Diego for the first joint meeting between the two groups.

After being greeted at the depot, the Sigma Delta Chis boarded two Coast Guard cruisers for a trip across San Diego Bay to the luxurious Kona Kai Club for the only formal meeting of the day.

The mutual benefits to be gained by obtaining a better understanding between labor and management were stressed by Edmund T. Price, president and general manager of Solar Aircraft Co., of San Diego, as he addressed the luncheon meeting.

In an interview session following his talk, Price, who recently completed his third trip to Europe in 18 months, opined that the United States is keeping ahead of British aviation, but it must credit the English for many of its advances. "This is especially true of propulsion units," he said. He also reported finding less anticipation of war in Europe now than at any time in recent years.

The lunch was followed by a quick swim for some and by a boat trip to the newly rebuilt aircraft carrier, *USS Hancock*—the first U.S. ship using steam catapults. Late model planes were shown the newsmen.

The San Diego Harbor Dept., which has increased commercial use of the port of San Diego by more than 100 per cent during the past year (while other ports decreased), was host to Sigma Delta Chi for a social buffet and cocktail party before the Los Angeles group reboarded its train for home.

The Sigma Delta Chi day was arranged by the directors of the San Diego chapter including Herbert G. Klein, president; E. Robert Anderson, David Thompson, Al DeBakcsy, Herbert Fredman, Fred Speers and James Julian. John Rose, president of the Los Angeles chapter, and Bill Baxter headed the effort at that end.

Assisting in the arrangements also were William Shea, associate publisher and general manager of the Union-Tribune Publishing Co., San Diego; James S. Copley, chairman of the Copley Press; John Long, general man-

ager of the California Newspaper Publishers Assn.; and Frederic C. Coonradt, acting director of the school of journalism at the University of Southern California.

**CHICAGO**—Cooperating with the Freedom of Information Committee of the Illinois Members of the Associated Press, the Illinois Press Association and the Illinois Broadcasters' Association, the Chicago Professional chapter sponsored a Freedom of Information clinic at Springfield last May. A Statehouse delegation, headed by Governor Stratton, and including members of the Illinois Courts, attended the day's three panel sessions at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel. Lots of questions were asked the guests by the newsmen who had a heyday getting in large quantities of complaints about government and court secrecy. The clinic paid off almost immediately. . . . In one instance, State Superintendent of Police Phil Brown, a guest at the clinic, heard a complaint about traffic accidents involving military personnel and the secrecy involved until clearance of information was given by the military authorities. A few weeks after the clinic he ordered all police districts to release such information immediately. So successful was the clinic that Al Orton is already working on one for this winter.

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**—"To better the administration of justice by encouraging writers and editors to show the people how our system of justice works, and possibly how it may work better" entitled a contest conducted by the Northern California Professional chapter for the State Bar of California. The \$500 annual Press-Bar Award went to Jack Morrison, San Francisco *Chronicle* reporter, for his story on the Pre-Trial Plan for California Courts. Members and non-members of Sigma Delta Chi competed. The jury which made the awards included James A. Bales, San Francisco, former managing editor of the San Francisco *Call-Bulletin*; Judge Paul J. McCormick, U. S. District Court, Los Angeles; J. Hart Clinton, San Francisco lawyer and publisher of the San Mateo *Times*; Clifford F. Weigle, professor of journalism and associate director of the Stanford University Institute of Journalistic Studies, and Philip F. Griffin, associate professor of journalism at the University of California, Berkeley. Eugene M. Prince, president of the State Bar, thanked the Professional chapter for its services in setting up and judging the contest entries. "The State Bar is well pleased. To judge from the number and variety of entries, I believe the Press-Bar Award has served its purpose well. The contest will encourage writers and editors to inform the public about the administration of justice in California."

(Continued from page 1)

bate and with little opportunity for the restraint of public opinion to be exerted. Some of it did not see the light of public print until it was adopted."

In conclusion the letter urged the Senators to "... give serious consideration to this matter of secret government, and ... take direct action to eliminate it from Congress and thus restore to the American people control over the instrument which they have created."

According to the report, "66 Senators graciously took the time and trouble to answer; many of them in detail; but 30 simply did not reply although they were sent reminder letters. Some were forthright; others ambiguous. Eight ducked the issue."

"Twenty-five Senators declared they were for open meetings of Congressional Committees except when considering matters of national security, a reasonable limitation."

"Thirteen others stated they favored open Committee meetings with certain reservations such as the protection of witnesses' reputations and executive session for 'marking up' bills."

"Seven Senators, by the tone and content of their letters, indicated they were open-minded and willing to discuss the matter reasonably with the press."

"Eleven went on record as favoring the secret executive sessions."

As President Robert U. Brown pointed out in his *Editor & Publisher* page, "Shop Talk at Thirty" in the July 17 issue of *E & P*, "Only 11 Senators in favor of secret meetings does not sound like many. It indicates that perhaps something should be done in Congress to correct the situation. However, 11 plus the 30 who would not even discuss the problem by mail add up to too many Senators who are indifferent to the people's right to know."

Quoting from the report, the following Senators favored open Committee meetings except in matters concerning national security:

"John Sparkman, Ala.; Lister Hill, Ala.; J. W. Fulbright, Ark.; J. Allen Frear, Jr., Del.; Henry C. Dworshak, Idaho; William E. Jenner, Ind.; John F. Kennedy, Mass.; Hubert H. Humphrey, Minn.; Edward J. Thye, Minn.; Stuart Symington, Mo.; James E. Murray, Mont.; Mike Mansfield, Mont.; George W. Malone, Nev.; Styles Bridges, N. H.; H. Alexander Smith, N. J.; Clinton P. Anderson, N. M.; Herbert H. Lehman, N. Y.; William Langer, N. D.; Wayne Morse, Ore.; Price Daniel, Tex.; Estes Kefauver, Tenn.; Henry M. Jackson, Wash.; Warren G. Magnuson, Wash.; Matthew M. Neely, W. Va.; Lester C. Hunt, Wyo. (deceased)."

"Those Senators favoring open Committee meetings but with certain reservations:

"Spessard L. Holland, Fla.; Herman Welker, Idaho; Everett M. Dirksen, Ill.; Guy M. Gillette, Ia.; Allen J. Ellender, La.; Russell B. Long, La.; Frederick G. Payne, Me.; Margaret Chase Smith, Me.; J. Glenn Beall, Md.; Robert G. Hendrickson, N. J.; Harry F. Byrd, Va.; Thomas A. Burke, Ohio; Homer Ferguson, Mich."

"Those Senators who indicated in their letters an open-minded attitude toward seeking a reasonable solution to the problem:

"William F. Knowland, Calif.; Prescott Bush, Conn.; George Smathers, Fla.; Francis Case, S. D.; Lyndon B. Johnson, Tex.; Harley M. Kilgore, W. Va.; Alexander Wiley, Wis."

"Those Senators who replied to your committee's letter but who ducked the issue:

"John J. Williams, Del.; Homer E. Capehart, Ind.; John Sherman Cooper, Ky.; Karl E. Mundt, S. D.; Frank A. Barrett, Wyo.; Leverett Saltonstall, Mass.; Edward Martin, Pa.; Milton R. Young, N. D."

"Those Senators who wrote that they favored secret executive sessions of Committees:

Barry Goldwater, Ariz.; Carl Hayden, Ariz.; Eugene D. Millikin, Colo.; Walter F. George, Ga.; Paul H. Douglas, Ill.; Irving M. Ives, N. Y.; Clyde R. Hoey, N. C. (deceased); Wallace F. Bennett, Utah; Ralph E. Flanders, Vt.; George D. Aiken, Vt.; A. Willis Robertson, Va."

"Those Senators who did not reply to your Committee's original and reminder letters:

"John L. McClellan, Ark.; Thomas H. Kuchel, Calif.; Edwin C. Johnson, Colo.; Richard B. Russell, Ga.; Bourke B. Hickenlooper, Ia.; Andrew F. Schoepel, Kan.; Frank Carlson, Kan.; Earle C. Clements, Ky.; John Marshall Butler, Md.; John C. Stennis, Miss.; Charles E. Potter, Mich.; James O. Eastland, Miss.; Thomas B. Hennings, Jr., Mo.; Hugh Butler, Neb.; Pat McCarran, Nev.; Robert W. Upton, N. H.; Dennis Chavez, N. M.; John W. Bricker, Ohio; Robert S. Kerr, Okla.; A. S. Mike Monroney, Okla.; Guy Cordon, Ore.; James H. Duff, Pa.; Theodore F. Green, R. I.; John O. Pastors, R. I.; Burnett R. Maybank, S. C.; Olin D. Johnston, S. C.; Albert Gore, Tenn.; Arthur V. Watkins, Utah; Joseph R. McCarthy, Wis.; William A. Purtell, Conn."

## Personals

### About Members

LOU RIEPENHOFF has been appointed as public relations and promotion director of Television Station WTVW, Milwaukee. He was formerly public service and promotion director of Radio Station WEMP, Milwaukee.

MERRILL INCH, who resigned as general manager of Reno Newspapers, Inc., to campaign for Governor of Nevada, purchased the weekly *North Las Vegas News*, after his defeat in the June elections.

LEE HILLS, executive editor of *The Miami Herald*, has been named to the board of directors of the Crime Commission of Greater Miami. He will fill the position formerly held by James L. Knight, general manager of *The Herald*, who was unable to continue to serve.

RICHARD G. KNOX has been appointed manager of the public relations bureau of Portland Cement Association, Chicago. Knox joined the association in 1948 as a public relations bureau staff writer. In 1952 he was made assistant manager.

GLENN G. HANSON is a new member of the University of Illinois journalism staff this fall. Hanson, editor of *Scholastic Roto*, New York, will teach courses in typography and graphic production processes.

RUSSELL V. KOHR has been appointed to the newly created post of assistant to the President of Illinois College, Jacksonville. Kohr, who has held the title of director of public relations at the college for five years, will supervise admissions, publicity and campus conferences.

ALAN G. SELBY is working on the Coldwater (Mich.) *Daily Reporter*, circulation 10,000. He is doing general reporting, sports writing and assisting with the editing of wire copy.

Five members of the Northwestern Ohio Chapter of Sigma Delta Chi were promoted by the *Toledo Blade* Sept. 1. JOHN WILLEY was named assistant managing editor, and JOSEPH V. KNACK succeeded Willey as city editor. DONALD P. WOLFE stepped up as sports editor, succeeding Knack. Wolfe formerly was state news editor for several years. Moving up into the vacated state news editor position was WILLIAM T. (TOM) BUCHANAN. The new assistant advertising director is HARRY R. ROBERTS, previously director of public relations.

GERALD H. UHRHAMMER, a senior at the University of Minnesota's School of Journalism and past president of the SDX chapter there, has received the 1953 Northwest Radio-Television News Association scholarship. Co-sponsored by NRTNA and Radio Station KROX, Crookston, Minn., the '53 scholarship, a 50 dollar award, is the first to be given. Each year a different radio or television station will co-sponsor the scholarship.

Three members of Sigma Delta Chi will be included on the 17-member Executive Committee for the eighth annual Southern Industrial Editors Institute, to be held November 4-6 at the Henry W. Grady School of Journalism, University of Georgia. They are WILLIS JOHNSON, editor, Southern Banker, Atlanta; GARLAND B. PORTER, editor and general manager, Southern Advertising and Publishing, Atlanta, and an Associate member, JOHN E. DREWRY, dean of the Henry W. Grady School of Journalism.

### Professional Chapters Get National Newsletter

FLOYD EDWARDS of the Louisville, Ky., *Times* is editing the Trading Post, SDX newsletter. The first edition was sent out in September to professional chapter officers as part of the activities planned by Odom Fanning's Professional Chapter Program Committee.

Scheduled to be published "every couple of months," Edwards included a request for information on chapter activities to include in "the combination swap sheet, tip sheet and do-it sheet for the professional chapters of Sigma Delta Chi."

According to the introductory paragraph in the first issue, "... chapters are loaded with ideas and activities, but there's been no way to find out what a neighbor is doing or how he makes things tick. This bulletin is designed as a medium for passing on to all the chapters the ideas and know-how which make the various groups successful."

The bulletin will consist primarily of case studies of projects and activities.

### Fraternity Endowment Fund Report

The Sigma Delta Chi Endowment Fund now totals \$27,457.50, according to Executive Director Victor E. Bluedorn. This amount represents gifts, Key Club payments (dues for life) and accrued interest. Under the present plan, all donations and payments for life dues (\$50) are added to the fund.

LLOYD M. WENDT, of Wilmette, Ill., the latest Key Club member, was just issued membership No. 1500.

Establishment of the fund was approved by the Executive Council of Sigma Delta Chi at the 1950 convention in Miami Beach. Such an endowment fund had been the goal of the Fraternity since 1936 when it was first discussed.

The Executive Council has asked all members to consider the Endowment Fund when making contributions and in arranging their wills. Donations are tax deductible for income tax purposes.

### Past President Wins Award

TULLY NETTLETON, assistant chief editorial writer for the *Christian Science Monitor* and a past president of Sigma Delta Chi (1936-37), has been awarded \$250 and first-place medal in the L. S. Mayers Awards for the best published articles on the subject of "How Can an Individual Citizen Contribute to World Peace?"

Given through *Feature* magazine for editors, the awards were made possible by Lawrence S. Mayers, president of L. & C. Mayers Company of New York, who has sponsored many national and international essay contests on the subject of world peace. Vice President Richard Nixon presented the awards.

The winning editorials were selected by Kenneth E. Olson, Dean of Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University; Professor Roscoe Ellard, School of Journalism, Columbia University; Wesley C. Clark, Dean of the School of Journalism, Syracuse University, and Earl English, Dean of the School of Journalism, University of Missouri.

## Obituaries

BLAIR MOODY (WDC-Pr'49), former United States Senator, died July 20, 1954, in the Ann Arbor University hospital.

MARK E. CRAMER (IaS'27), publisher of a string of Iowa and Nebraska dailies, was killed July 17 in a plane crash near Denison, Ia.

DAVID SUTHERLAND SR., (Grn-Pr'51), 63, editor and publisher of the *Montezuma* (Ia.) *Republican*, passed away in a Grinnell hospital.

DONALD J. STERLING (UOr-Pr'22), 67, managing editor of the *Oregon Journal*, Portland, for 33 years until his retirement two years ago, died June 15, 1954 after suffering a stroke.

EUGENE S. MATTHEWS (Fla-Pr'41), 81, publisher of the *Bradford County Telegraph* (Fla.), died July 13.

FRENCH FERGUSON (Mon-Pr'15), 71, editor of *Missoula* (Mont.) *Daily Missoulian*, died at Missoula, June 23, after a brief illness.

ARNOLD RATTRAY (Syr-Pr'41), 56, publisher and editor of *East Hampton* (L. I.) *Star*, died July 11 in Southampton.

CHARLES R. ANDRUS (ND'28), 45, publisher of the weekly *LaMoure* (N. D.) *Chronicle*, died July 7.

JOSEPH R. FARRINGTON (Wis'19), 56, Hawaii's delegate to Congress, died June 19 at his office on Capitol Hill. He suffered a heart attack.

FLOYD CHALFONT (PaS-Pr'41), 64, Waynesboro, Pa., newspaper publisher, was killed May 27 in an automobile accident near Prairie Center, Ill.

ALBERT K. MATHRE (Ia'44), Tucson, Ariz., was killed in action in Korea, May, 1950.

KARL A. OLIVER, (WnS'38), Pullman, Wash., was killed in action in 1941.

RALPH N. BYERS (UMc'23), 52, editor of the *Ann Arbor* (Mich.) *News*, died of coronary thrombosis at the University of Michigan hospital.

EDWARD W. COCHRANE (NU-Pr'38), 60, sports director for the Hearst newspapers until his retirement two years ago, died of a cardiac ailment in Carmel, Calif.

HAROLD JENNESS (Wis'15), Seattle, Wash., May 16, 1952.

HARRY K. BROWN (TxU'18), Fort Worth, Tex., Nov. 13, 1953.

C. M. ELLIOTT (Mo'14), Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, March 25, 1954.

JAMES K. KENT (IaS'25), Dallas Center, Ia.

ALLAN RINEHART (OrS'29), Portland, Ore., Dec. 31, 1953.

HENRY D. WHITTENBURG (SMU'41), McAllen, Tex.

JAMES A. LOWRY (WnS), Northport, Wash., March 16, 1945.

MAURICE F. McEVOY (DeP'31), Roswell, N. M., Feb. 1954.

DEAN W. DAVIS (Mo'17), West Plains, Mo.

WILLIAM E. SIMPSON (KnX'24), Galesburg, Ill., Sept. 12, 1953.

CHARLES R. WILLIAMS (Pit'22), Greensburg, Pa.

ELLIOT M. BARON (Min'50), Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 24, 1953.

ARTHUR GOSHORN, JR. (Grn'40), Winterset, Ia.

GEORGE I. CHRISTIE (Pur-Pr'18), Guelph, Ontario, Canada, July 3, 1953.

TOM R. JOHNSON (Pur'28), South Bend, Ind., Sept. 23, 1953.

# Ever build a dream around a baby?



All parents are dreamers at heart. William and Betty Lou Potter are like that. Already they picture their baby daughter Susan as a college student. The Potters live in Chicago, where William works

as a salesman for Standard Oil.

And they're doing something now to make this dream come true. Playing a large part in their savings program is the Standard Oil savings and stock bonus plan.

For every dollar that they invest in United States Savings Bonds under the plan, they get credits which are translated, once a year, into a bonus of Standard Oil stock. Both the bonds and the stock are theirs to do with as they wish. The Potters plan to keep theirs. They know that Standard Oil has paid dividends for 61 consecutive years.

They know, too, that there are other "dividends" in a Standard Oil job.

When little Susan arrived, a substantial part of the cost was paid through Standard Oil's group hospital and surgical operation insurance plan.

William and Betty Lou are aware of the security offered by the many other benefits in Standard Oil's employee program including retirement, group life insurance, vacations and sickness and disability protection which provides coverage for accidents either on or off the job. To the cost of some plans both the employees and company contribute. For others, such as the sickness and disability benefits plan, the company alone pays.

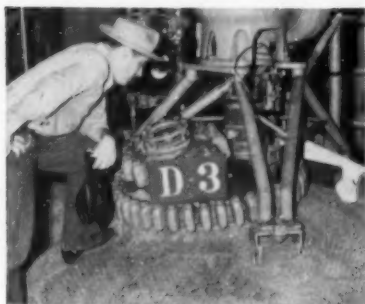
This wide range of benefits is one reason why more than a third of our employees have been with us for more than ten years and about half own stock in our company.

We're proud of that.

And it makes us just as proud as parents when William Potter and other employees tell us, "Standard Oil is a good place to work."



**PLANNING THE FUTURE** for little Susan has already begun in the home of William and Betty Lou Potter in Chicago, as it has in almost every home where there is a baby. William, as an employee of Standard Oil, has a head start in planning. He is able to use the many provisions of our employee benefit program—one of the broadest in any industry.



**PLANNING THE FUTURE** is important for everyone, but the present is equally important. The steady increase in our investment in more and better tools and equipment helps employees like Charles Carnahan of our Wood River refinery to produce more and thus earn more. Since January 1, 1946, we have spent about \$1.5 billion to expand and improve facilities.



**PLANNING THE FUTURE** during working years is a must, says Miss Mabel Soop, of Detroit, a retired Standard Oil employee. Miss Soop will receive retirement checks regularly for life. This income was provided for by voluntary contributions which both Miss Soop and the company made while she was working. Our first retirement plan was established in 1903.



**PLANNING THE FUTURE** with still fewer accidents is the aim of the safety program of Standard Oil and its subsidiary companies. Our 60,000 employees, like Joseph J. Kolar of our Whiting refinery, actually are safer at work than at home. For many years our safety record has been better than the average in an industry known for its low accident rate.

**Standard Oil Company (INDIANA)**



# No crystal ball for us

One piece of equipment we never use in our business is a crystal ball. Can't trust them. Just as liable as not to hand us the fouled up word on something or other. And then we'd be in a miserable mess.

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